IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of :

Steven R. Merrigan, et al. :

Serial No.: : Group Art Unit:

Filed: June , 2003 : Examiner:

Title: Polymerized Hydrogel Comprising Low:

Amounts of Residual Monomers and :

By Products :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the enclosed Application and prior to the calculation of the requisite filing fee, please consider the following Amendments in the enclosed Application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following section on page 1, line 13, of the Specification:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This Application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/393,283, filed on July 1, 2002.--

Please insert the following two paragraphs on page 23, line 7, of the Specification:

--All documents cited in the Detailed Description of the Invention are, in relevant part, incorporated herein by reference; the citation of any document is not to be construed as an admission that it is prior art with respect to the present invention.

While particular embodiments of the present invention have been illustrated and described, it would be obvious to those skilled in the art that various other changes and modifications can be made